

105TH CONGRESS
1ST SESSION

H. R. 709

IN THE SENATE OF THE UNITED STATES

MARCH 12, 1997

Received; read twice and referred to the Committee on Energy and Natural
Resources

AN ACT

To reauthorize and amend the National Geologic Mapping
Act of 1992, and for other purposes.

1 *Be it enacted by the Senate and House of Representa-*
2 *tives of the United States of America in Congress assembled,*

1 **SECTION 1. SHORT TITLE.**

2 This Act may be cited as the “National Geologic
3 Mapping Reauthorization Act of 1997”.

4 **SEC. 2. FINDINGS.**

5 Congress finds that—

6 (1) in enacting the National Geologic Mapping
7 Act of 1992 (43 U.S.C. 31a et seq.), Congress
8 found, among other things, that—

9 (A) during the 2 decades preceding enact-
10 ment of that Act, the production of geologic
11 maps had been drastically curtailed;

12 (B) geologic maps are the primary data
13 base for virtually all applied and basic earth-
14 science investigations;

15 (C) Federal agencies, State and local gov-
16 ernments, private industry, and the general
17 public depend on the information provided by
18 geologic maps to determine the extent of poten-
19 tial environmental damage before embarking on
20 projects that could lead to preventable, costly
21 environmental problems or litigation;

22 (D) the lack of proper geologic maps has
23 led to the poor design of such structures as
24 dams and waste-disposal facilities;

1 (E) geologic maps have proven indispen-
2 sable in the search for needed fossil fuel and
3 mineral resources; and

4 (F) a comprehensive nationwide program
5 of geologic mapping is required in order to sys-
6 tematically build the Nation's geologic-map
7 data base at a pace that responds to increasing
8 demand;

9 (2) the geologic mapping program called for by
10 that Act has not been fully implemented; and

11 (3) it is time for this important program to be
12 fully implemented.

13 **SEC. 3. REAUTHORIZATION AND AMENDMENT.**

14 (a) DEFINITIONS.—Section 3 of the National Geo-
15 logic Mapping Act of 1992 (43 U.S.C. 31b) is amended—

16 (1) by striking “As used in this Act:” and in-
17 serting “In this Act.”;

18 (2) by redesignating paragraphs (2), (3), (4),
19 and (5) as paragraphs (3), (4), (5), and (7), respec-
20 tively;

21 (3) by inserting after paragraph (1) the follow-
22 ing:

23 “(2) ASSOCIATION.—The term ‘Association’
24 means the Association of American State Geolo-
25 gists.”;

1 (4) by inserting after paragraph (5) (as redesignated by paragraph (2) of this subsection) the following new paragraph:

2 “(6) STATE.—The term ‘State’ includes the
3 District of Columbia, the Commonwealth of Puerto
4 Rico, the Commonwealth of the Northern Mariana
5 Islands, American Samoa, Guam, and the Virgin Is-
6 lands.”; and

7 (5) in each paragraph that does not have a
8 heading, by inserting a heading, in the same style as
9 the heading in paragraph (2), as added by para-
10 graph (3), the text of which is comprised of the term
11 defined in the paragraph.

12 (b) GEOLOGIC MAPPING PROGRAM.—Section 4 of the
13 National Geologic Mapping Act of 1992 (43 U.S.C. 31c)
14 is amended—

15 (1) by striking subsection (a) and inserting the
16 following:

17 “(a) ESTABLISHMENT.—

18 “(1) IN GENERAL.—There is established a na-
19 tional cooperative geologic mapping program be-
20 tween the United States Geological Survey and the
21 State geological surveys, acting through the Associa-
22 tion.
23 tion.
24

1 “(2) DESIGN, DEVELOPMENT, AND ADMINIS-
2 TRATION.—The cooperative geologic mapping pro-
3 gram shall be—

4 “(A) designed and administered to achieve
5 the objectives set forth in subsection (c);

6 “(B) developed in consultation with the ad-
7 visory committee; and

8 “(C) administered through the Survey.”;
9 (2) in subsection (b)—

10 (A) in the subsection heading by striking
11 “USGS” and inserting “THE SURVEY”;

12 (B) in paragraph (1)—

13 (i) by single-indenting the paragraph,
14 double-indenting the subparagraphs, and
15 triple indenting the clauses;

16 (ii) by inserting “LEAD AGENCY.—”
17 before “The Survey”;

18 (iii) in subparagraph (A)—

19 (I) by striking “Committee on
20 Natural Resources” and inserting
21 “Committee on Resources”; and

22 (II) by striking “date of enact-
23 ment of this Act” and inserting “date
24 of enactment of the National Geologic

1 Mapping Reauthorization Act of
2 1997”;

3 (iv) in subparagraph (B)—

4 (I) by striking “State geological
5 surveys” and inserting “Association”;
6 and

7 (II) by striking “date of enact-
8 ment of this Act” and inserting “date
9 of enactment of the National Geologic
10 Mapping Reauthorization Act of
11 1997”; and

12 (v) in subparagraph (C)—

13 (I) by striking “date of enact-
14 ment of this Act” and inserting “date
15 of enactment of the National Geologic
16 Mapping Reauthorization Act of
17 1997”;

18 (II) by striking “Committee on
19 Natural Resources” and inserting
20 “Committee on Resources”;

21 (III) in clauses (i) and (ii) by in-
22 serting “and the Association” after
23 “the Survey”;

24 (IV) by adding “and” at the end
25 of clause (ii); and

1 (V) by striking “; and” at the
2 end of clause (iii) and all that follows
3 through the end of the subparagraph
4 and inserting a period;

5 (C) in paragraph (2)—

6 (i) by inserting “RESPONSIBILITIES
7 OF THE SECRETARY.—” before “In addi-
8 tion to”; and

9 (ii) in subparagraph (A) by striking
10 “State geological surveys” and inserting
11 “Association”; and

12 (D) by single-indenting the paragraph and
13 double-indenting the subparagraphs;

14 (3) in subsection (c)—

15 (A) in paragraph (2) by striking “interpre-
16 tive” and inserting “interpretative”; and

17 (B) in paragraph (4) by striking “aware-
18 ness for” and inserting “awareness of”; and

19 (4) in subsection (d)—

20 (A) in paragraph (1) by inserting “FED-
21 ERAL COMPONENT.—” before “A Federal”;

22 (B) in paragraph (2)—

23 (i) by inserting “SUPPORT COMPO-
24 NENT.—” before “A geologic”; and

1 (ii) by striking subparagraph (D) and
2 inserting the following:

3 “(D) geochronologic and isotopic investiga-
4 tions that—

5 “(i) provide radiometric age dates for
6 geologic-map units; and

7 “(ii) fingerprint the geothermometry,
8 geobarometry, and alteration history of
9 geologic-map units,

10 which investigations shall be contributed to a
11 national geochronologic data base;”;

12 (C) in paragraph (3) by inserting “STATE
13 COMPONENT.—” before “A State”; and

14 (D) by striking paragraph (4) and insert-
15 ing the following:

16 “(4) EDUCATION COMPONENT.—A geologic
17 mapping education component—

18 “(A) the objectives of which shall be—

19 “(i) to develop the academic programs
20 that teach earth-science students the fun-
21 damental principles of geologic mapping
22 and field analysis; and

23 “(ii) to provide for broad education in
24 geologic mapping and field analysis
25 through support of field studies;

1 “(B) investigations under which shall be
2 integrated with the other mapping components
3 of the geologic mapping program and shall re-
4 spond to priorities identified for those compo-
5 nents; and

6 “(C) Federal funding for which shall be
7 matched by non-Federal sources on a 1-to-1
8 basis.”.

9 (c) ADVISORY COMMITTEE.—Section 5 of the Na-
10 tional Geologic Mapping Act of 1992 (43 U.S.C. 31d) is
11 amended—

12 (1) by striking subsection (a) and inserting the
13 following:

14 “(a) ESTABLISHMENT.—

15 “(1) IN GENERAL.—There shall be established
16 a 10-member geologic mapping advisory committee
17 to advise the Director on planning and implementa-
18 tion of the geologic mapping program.

19 “(2) MEMBERS EX OFFICIO.—Federal agency
20 members shall include the Administrator of the En-
21 vironmental Protection Agency or a designee, the
22 Secretary of Energy or a designee, the Secretary of
23 Agriculture or a designee, and the Assistant to the
24 President for Science and Technology or a designee.

1 “(3) APPOINTED MEMBERS.—Not later than 90
2 days after the date of enactment of the National
3 Geologic Mapping Reauthorization Act of 1997, in
4 consultation with the Association, the Secretary shall
5 appoint to the advisory committee 2 representatives
6 from the Survey (including the Chief Geologist, as
7 Chairman), 2 representatives from the State geologi-
8 cal surveys, 1 representative from academia, and 1
9 representative from the private sector.”; and

10 (2) in subsection (b)(3) by striking “and State”
11 and inserting “, State, and university”.

12 (d) GEOLOGIC MAPPING PROGRAM IMPLEMENTATION
13 PLAN.—Section 6 of the National Geologic Mapping Act
14 of 1992 (43 U.S.C. 31e) is amended—

15 (1) in paragraph (1) by inserting “cooperative”
16 after “national”;

17 (2) by striking paragraph (3)(C) and inserting
18 the following:

19 “(C) for the State geologic mapping com-
20 ponent, a priority-setting mechanism that re-
21 sponds to—

22 “(i) specific intrastate needs for geo-
23 logic-map information; and

1 “(ii) interstate needs shared by adja-
2 cent entities that have common require-
3 ments; and”;

4 (3) by striking paragraphs (4) and (5) and in-
5 serting the following:

6 “(4) a mechanism for adopting scientific and
7 technical mapping standards for preparing and pub-
8 lishing general-purpose and special-purpose geologic
9 maps to—

10 “(A) ensure uniformity of cartographic and
11 scientific conventions; and

12 “(B) provide a basis for judgment as to
13 the comparability and quality of map products;
14 and”; and

15 (4) by redesignating paragraph (6) as para-
16 graph (5).

17 (e) NATIONAL GEOLOGIC-MAP DATA BASE.—Section
18 7 of the National Geologic Mapping Act of 1992 (43
19 U.S.C. 31f) is amended by striking subsection (b) and in-
20 serting the following:

21 “(b) STANDARDIZATION.—

22 “(1) IN GENERAL.—Geologic maps contributed
23 to the national archives shall have format, symbols,
24 and technical attributes that adhere to standards so

1 that archival information can be accessed, ex-
2 changed, and compared efficiently and accurately, as
3 required by Executive Order 12906 (59 Fed. Reg.
4 17,671 (1994)), which established the National Spa-
5 tial Data Infrastructure.

6 “(2) DEVELOPMENT OF STANDARDS.—Entities
7 that contribute geologic maps to the national ar-
8 chives shall develop the standards described in para-
9 graph (1) in cooperation with the Federal Geo-
10 graphic Data Committee, which is charged with
11 standards development and other data coordination
12 activities as described in Office of Management and
13 Budget revised Circular A–16.”.

14 (f) ANNUAL REPORT.—Section 8 of the National
15 Geologic Mapping Act of 1992 (43 U.S.C. 31g) is amend-
16 ed in the first sentence—

17 (1) by striking “Committee on Natural Re-
18 sources” and inserting “Committee on Resources”;
19 and

20 (2) by striking “program, and describing and
21 evaluating progress” and inserting “program and
22 describing and evaluating the progress”.

23 (g) AUTHORIZATION OF APPROPRIATIONS.—Section
24 9 of the National Geologic Mapping Act of 1992 (43
25 U.S.C. 31h) is amended to read as follows:

1 **“SEC. 9. AUTHORIZATION OF APPROPRIATIONS.**

2 “(a) IN GENERAL.—There are authorized to be ap-
3 propriated to carry out the national cooperative geologic
4 mapping program under this Act—

5 “(1) \$26,000,000 for fiscal year 1998;

6 “(2) \$28,000,000 for fiscal year 1999; and

7 “(3) \$30,000,000 for fiscal year 2000.

8 “(b) ALLOCATION OF APPROPRIATED FUNDS.—

9 “(1) IN GENERAL.—Of the amount of funds
10 that are appropriated under subsection (a) for any
11 fiscal year up to the amount that is equal to the
12 amount appropriated to carry out the national coop-
13 erative geologic mapping program for fiscal year
14 1996—

15 “(A) not less than 20 percent shall be allo-
16 cated to State mapping activities; and

17 “(B) not less than 2 percent shall be allo-
18 cated to educational mapping activities.

19 “(2) INCREASED APPROPRIATIONS.—Of the
20 amount of funds that are appropriated under sub-
21 section (a) for any fiscal year up to the amount that
22 exceeds the amount appropriated to carry out the
23 national cooperative geologic mapping program for
24 fiscal year 1996—

25 “(A) for fiscal year 1998—

1 “(i) 75 percent shall be allocated for
2 Federal mapping and support mapping ac-
3 tivities;

4 “(ii) 23 percent shall be allocated for
5 State mapping activities; and

6 “(iii) 2 percent shall be allocated for
7 educational mapping activities;

8 “(B) for fiscal year 1999—

9 “(i) 74 percent shall be allocated for
10 Federal mapping and support mapping ac-
11 tivities;

12 “(ii) 24 percent shall be allocated for
13 State mapping activities; and

14 “(iii) 2 percent shall be allocated for
15 educational mapping activities; and

16 “(C) for fiscal year 2000—

17 “(i) 73 percent shall be allocated for
18 Federal mapping and support mapping ac-
19 tivities;

20 “(ii) 25 percent shall be allocated for
21 State mapping activities; and

1 “(iii) 2 percent shall be allocated for
 2 educational mapping activities.”.

Passed the House of Representatives March 11,
 1997.

Attest: ROBIN H. CARLE,
Clerk.